



Iowa Ag News – Cattle & Calves

Upper Midwest Regional Field Office · 210 Walnut Street Ste 833 · Des Moines IA 50309 · (515) 776-3400 · (800) 772-0825

Fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov

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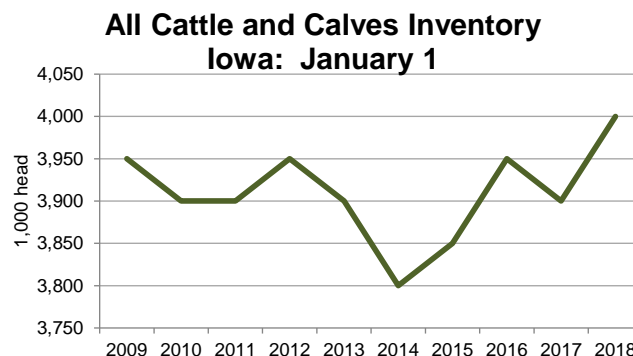
Media Contact: Greg Thessen

All cattle and calves in Iowa as of January 1, 2018, totaled 4.00 million head, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Cattle* report. This was up 100,000 head from January 1, 2017. **Beef cows**, at 970,000 head, were 1 percent above last year. **Milk cow** inventory was up 5,000 head to 220,000 head.

All heifers 500 pounds and over were down 3 percent to 830,000 head. **Heifers for beef cow replacement** were down 11 percent from 2017 to 165,000 head; **heifers for milk cow replacement**, at 135,000 head, were the same as the previous year; and **all other heifers** were down 2 percent to 530,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over were up 6 percent from last year at 1.39 million head. **Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over** were unchanged from a year ago at 70,000 head. **Calves under 500 pounds** on January 1, 2018, totaled 520,000 head, up 8 percent from last year.

The 2017 **calf crop** was estimated at 1.09 million head, the same as the 2016 calf crop. **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots on January 1, 2017, totaled 1.26 million head, up 9 percent from one year ago.



Cattle and Calves, Number by Class – Iowa and United States: January 1, 2017 and 2018

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All cattle and calves	3,900	4,000	103	93,705	94,399	101
All cows that have calved	1,180	1,190	101	40,559	41,123	101
Beef cows	965	970	101	31,213	31,723	102
Milk cows	215	220	102	9,346	9,400	101
Heifers 500 pounds and over	860	830	97	20,132	20,245	101
For beef cow replacement	185	165	89	6,368	6,131	96
For milk cow replacement	135	135	100	4,754	4,781	101
Other heifers	540	530	98	9,010	9,332	104
Steers 500 pounds and over	1,310	1,390	106	16,384	16,352	100
Bulls 500 pounds and over	70	70	100	2,244	2,252	100
Calves under 500 pounds	480	520	108	14,386	14,427	100
Cattle on feed ¹	1,160	1,260	109	13,067	14,006	107

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.

Calf Crop – Iowa and United States: 2016 and 2017

	Iowa			United States		
	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016	2016	2017	2017 as % of 2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Calf crop	1,090	1,090	100	35,093	35,808	102

United States Cattle Inventory

All cattle and calves in the United States, as of January 1, 2018, totaled 94.4 million head, 1 percent above the 93.7 million head on January 1, 2017.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 41.1 million head, were 1 percent above the 40.6 million head on January 1, 2017. Beef cows, at 31.7 million head, were up 2 percent from a year ago. Milk cows, at 9.40 million head, were up 1 percent from the previous year.

All heifers 500 pounds and over, as of January 1, 2018, totaled 20.2 million head, 1 percent above the 20.1 million head on January 1, 2017. Beef replacement heifers, at 6.13 million head, were down 4 percent from a year ago. Milk replacement heifers, at 4.78 million head, were up 1 percent from the previous year. Other heifers, at 9.33 million head, were 4 percent above a year earlier.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, as of January 1, 2018, totaled 16.4 million head, down slightly from January 1, 2017.

Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, as of January 1, 2018, totaled 2.25 million head, up slightly from January 1, 2017.

Calves under 500 pounds, as of January 1, 2018, totaled 14.4 million head, up slightly from January 1, 2017.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for all feedlots totaled 14.0 million head on January 1, 2018. The inventory is up 7 percent from the January 1, 2017 total of 13.1 million head. Cattle on feed, in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head, accounted for 82.0 percent of the total cattle on feed on January 1, 2018, up 1 percent from the previous year. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds (outside of feedlots) is 26.1 million head, 2 percent below one year ago.

The 2017 calf crop in the United States was estimated at 35.8 million head, up 2 percent from last year's calf crop. Calves born during the first half of 2017 were estimated at 26.0 million head, up 2 percent from the first half of 2016. Calves born during the second half of 2017 were estimated at 9.81 million head, 27 percent of the total 2017 calf crop.

All Cattle and Calves Inventory – United States: January 1

Million head

